



31 E. Fifth St.
Tempe, AZ 85281

Tempe Veterans Commission

The Tempe Veterans Commission advises the Mayor and City Council and assists City departments on veteran programs, policies, and practices designed to improve the quality of life for veterans in Tempe; educates the community on the status of veterans' rights, needs, and contributions to the community; and recommends ways to strengthen existing services for veterans while pursuing the creation of new program and service opportunities. In addition, the Commission develops and promotes benchmarks, as outlined by the Arizona Coalition for Military Families for assisting the City of Tempe and its business community earn recognition as "Arizona Veteran Supportive Employers"; assists in creating and supporting a community connection point to inform, guide, and direct military veterans seeking personal and professional enhancement services that may include education, mentoring, workforce support, and health and wellness; and advises on supportive affordable housing projects for veteran families.

The Tempe Veterans Commission consists of eleven (11) members, appointed for terms of three (3) years, who represent each of the following existing United States military and veteran service areas: (1) Arizona Coalition of Military Families; (2) Arizona Department of Veterans Services; (3) Pat Tillman Veterans Center at Arizona State University; (4) East Valley Veterans Education Center; (5) Phoenix Veteran's Administration Medical Center or other health and wellness organization; (6) Housing advocacy and assistance specialist; (7) Supportive services agency (e.g. U.S. Vets or Save The Family); (8) Returning military veteran with an honorable discharge within 3 years prior to the date of Commission application; (9) Retired or prior service United States military veteran; (10) Active United States military or reservist; and, (11) At large. The Tempe Veterans Commission conducts regular meetings six (6) times in a calendar year, with no more than two (2) meetings held in any 30-day period. (City Code, Chapter 2, Article V, Division 20)

Name	Term Expires	
Vacant	12/31/2015	Arizona Department of Veterans Services
Sweatt, Joanna M.	12/31/2015	Pat Tillman Veterans Center at ASU
Winkel, Thomas R.	12/31/2015	Arizona Coalition of Military Families
Friedman, Troy	12/31/2016	East Valley Veterans Education Center
Groen, Dale	12/31/2016	Supportive Services Agency
Little-Upah, Patricia	12/31/2016	Housing Advocacy and Assistance Specialist
Skotnicki, Laura	12/31/2016	Health and Wellness Organization
Bravo, Michelle (Vice-Chair)	12/31/2017	Active United States Military
Essex, Scott (Secretary)	12/31/2017	At Large
Finkle, Keith (Chair)	12/31/2017	Returning United States Military Veteran
Lucier, David F.	12/31/2017	Prior Service United States Military Veteran

Staff Liaison:

Naomi Farrell, Human Services Director (480) 350-5428